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QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING
OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 21 November 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 21 November 1994, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 79, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 21 November 1994 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
to the Secretary-General

With reference to a statement made by the Greek Cypriot representative at the meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on 17 November 1994, on agenda item 79, entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects", I have the honour to bring to your kind attention the following in exercise of my right of reply which I can only present in writing due to reasons that are well known.

It is ironic that, in that statement, Mr. Shambos sheds crocodile tears on "casualties suffered by peace-keepers in 1974" at a time when Greek Cypriot schoolchildren and others, at the instigation and encouragement of his own leadership, are busy attacking and injuring United Nations peace-keepers in violent demonstrations along the buffer zone and our borders. As you are aware, in the massive demonstrations that were staged on 15 November 1994, two United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) personnel were injured by the Greek Cypriot demonstrators, along with Turkish Cypriot civilians and a number of military personnel, as also stated by the United Nations spokesman on peace-keeping operations at the noon briefing on the same date.

The demonstrations have again shown which side harbours deep-seated hostility and aggressive intentions against the other, and who has been on the defensive in Cyprus since the beginning of the conflict in 1963. I believe that Mr. Shambos does a disservice not only to the cause of a negotiated peace in Cyprus, but also to the memory of his own late leader, Archbishop Makarios, by trying to deny or ignore the following passages from his statement made before the Security Council on 19 July 1974, in which he unequivocally named Greece, and not Turkey, as the invader and the aggressor in Cyprus:

> "It is clearly an invasion from outside, in flagrant violation of the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus. The so-called coup was the work of the Greek officers staffing and commanding the National Guard." (emphasis added) (Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-ninth Year, 1780th meeting, para. 18)

> "As I have already stated, the events in Cyprus do not constitute an internal matter of the Greeks of Cyprus. The Turks of Cyprus are also affected. The coup of the Greek junta is an invasion, and from its consequences the whole people of Cyprus suffers, both Greeks and Turks." (emphasis added) (ibid., para. 32)

It is clear from the above that the events in which some United Nations peace-keepers lost their lives in the line of duty, both during the events of 1974 and before then, were caused by the Greek Cypriot side. The responsibility for such tragic loss of life, therefore, solely rests on the shoulders of the Greek Cypriot side, and whoever may have aided and abetted them in the bloody campaign to achieve enosis, union with Greece. It is also not forgotten that

numerous United Nations soldiers were murdered in cold blood by the Greek Cypriots between 1963 and 1974, allegedly for helping the then beleaguered Turkish Cypriots.

Despite the lack of any formal legal framework between the Turkish Cypriot side and UNFICYP, our side has always given its consent to the deployment and functioning of UNFICYP on its territory and has always cooperated with it in the performance of its duties. It is the Greek Cypriot side, which, contrary to its public posture, has again been creating immense difficulties for UNFICYP in maintaining the status quo, most notably by staging violent demonstrations and violations of the buffer zone such as the above, unnecessarily raising tensions in the island and also putting new strains on the process of peacemaking within the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General. This fact is indicative of the Greek Cypriot side's two-faced approach to the negotiations and its lack of political will to settle the issue.

I would be grateful if the present letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 79, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus